[redacted] 24 July 1953

(14)

MEMORANDUM FOR: LIAISON & SECURITY OFFICER/TSS

SUBJECT: An Account of the Chemical Division's Contacts in the National Institute of Health

1. Through the efficient cooperation of the Liaison & Security Officer/TSS, it was made possible for Drs. [redacted] and [redacted] to visit various people in the National Institute of Health and the USPHS Hospital at Lexington, Kentucky on 8 July 1953. The purpose of this visit was to inform them, in a secure manner, of our interest in and support of the research program of Dr. Harris Isbell.

2. Dr. William Sebrell, Director of N.I.H., was informed of the defensive aspects of the Agency's interest in Dr. Isbell's program and of our financial support of it. No details of the research program were divulged, but Dr. Sebrell approved highly of our general aims and indicated that he would afford us full support and protection. He advised us that Dr. James Shannon should be cleared by the Agency in order to make secure the administrative side of the program.

3. Mr. Morse, the Security Chief of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, was also visited for the purpose of informing him of our visit to Lexington and to obtain his views on our relationship to Dr. Chapman at the Lexington Hospital. He informed us that he had talked to Dr. Chapman and had ascertained that Chapman would be more than willing to drop any interest or connection that he had ever had in our project. Further, Mr. Morse said that he would call Dr. Chapman on the telephone prior to our arrival at Lexington, inform him of our visit, and confirm this position.

4. Later that day, Dr. Harris Isbell was visited at the U. S. Public Health Service Hospital at Lexington, Kentucky. Dr. Isbell was told that Dr. Chapman had decided that since his personal interests lay along different lines and due to the press of administrative work, he would prefer not to become involved in any way in the project under discussion and had so informed Mr. Morse. In addition, Dr. Isbell was told of our visit with Dr. Sebrell and that had taken place at that time. Further discussion with Dr. Isbell was confined to the details of the proposed research work which he had planned within the outlines of the agenda given to him by Dr. Gottlieb on his first visit.

[redacted]
Chief
Chemical Division, TSS

Distribution:
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